

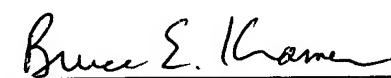
**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
USAN 10/030,682**

**REMARKS**

The claims have been amended to correct improper multiple claim dependencies. Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860



Bruce E. Kramer  
Registration No. 33,725

Date: May 21, 2002

**APPENDIX**  
**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**The claims are amended as follows:**

4. (Amended) The process as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1 or 2, wherein fluorine gas and/or ammonia gas is fed in portions.
5. (Amended) The process as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 4] claim 1 or 2, wherein the concentration of fluorine gas fed is 3 mol % or less.
6. (Amended) The process as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1 or 2, wherein the concentration of ammonia gas fed is 6 mol % or less.
7. (Amended) The process as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 6] claim 1 or 2, wherein the diluting gas is at least one selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, helium, argon, hexafluoroethane and octafluoropropane.
8. (Amended) The process as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 7] claim 1 or 2, wherein the diluting gas is reused by circulation.
9. (Amended) The process as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 8] claim 1 or 2, wherein a step of treating unreacted fluorine gas is provided and in the step, unreacted fluorine gas is treated with an aqueous alkali solution and/or alumina.
11. (Amended) A nitrogen trifluoride product comprising the nitrogen trifluoride obtained by the production process described in [any one of claims 1 to 10] claim 1 or 2.